Love is the name of the game

NEW DELHI, Nov 14: Sightless or nearly sightless players from seven nations are ready to demonstrate that cricket can be a game of sound and determination in the first international cricket tournament for the blind, reports AP.

"For the players, it will be a dream fulfilled. It will reinforce their achievement capabilities and make them role models for hundreds and thousands of other visually handicapped people," said George Abraham. chairman of the Association for Cricket for the Blind in In-

Australia, England, New Zealand, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and hosts India - all countries with teams among the international elite of the sighted cricket world will compete for the Kanishka Trophy in the tournament starting Tuesday. They use spe-cial balls that emit a rattle to help batsmen direct their bats and fielders know where the catch can be made. Players range from the partially sighted to the totally blind. International umpires will take part. All seven nations have blind

cricket domestic leagues, but this is the first time an international tournament is being held, organisers said. Each team will play six matches before the semifinals.

There are no sponsorship bonanzas for the players, no fancy cars to be won and no huge TV or radio audiences. But all that means little to the play-

"I love this game, it helps me face life more easily. I don't care for anything else," said Anand Sharma, captain of the Indian team. Sharma, a batsman his manager compared to sighted Indian star Sachin Tendulkar, learned the game listening to radio commentaries of international cricket matches.

In the background, fielder Veeresh Patel, guided by the loud rattle of a ball lobbed high by a batsman, dived to his right for a spectacular catch, ending dramatically prone on the

" · love to dive at the last moment and take a catch," Paice

Players chuckled, shouted. scolded each other - there cannot be a moment of silence on the ground. This game is about

The players play with a hollow plastic ball that rattles as it moves, an ordinary cricket bat and iron stumps. Most rules are the same as in international cricket, with a few modifica-

Bowlers shout "ready?" and wait for a "yes" from batsmen before responding with a shouted "play" and flinging the

Nearly 20 cricket tourna ments for blind men are held each year in India, and three for women.

McGrath wants 5 per Test

SYDNEY, Nov 14: Rejuvenated Australian pace spearhead Glenn McGrath has set himself a target of reaching 200 Test wickets in this summer's Ashes series against England starting this week, reports AFP.

McGrath has also stressed the importance of Australia starting well in the two back-toback Tests against Alec Stewart's tourists in Brisbane and Perth, which open a hectic schedule of five matches in seven weeks.

Just back from Australia's successful tour of Pakistan. McGrath said he was fit and he was very happy with his bowl-McGrath claimed 12 wickets

at 28.67 in the three-Test series in Pakistan after a string of injuries had curtailed his recent appearances. He had hoped to reach the

200-wicket mark last summer but only managed three Tests due to injury. His series haul in Pakistan lifted his Test tally to I guess 200 is the next major

goal. I set myself five wickets a Test, so we've got five Tests (against England) 25 wickets." McGrath said today.

"Hopefully, 1" knock that off well and truly this summer. McGrath said he thought Australia would do well in the Asucs if they could maintain the standard of the past two

"The first two Tests will be important..... whoever gets the

early ascendancy should go well. We had a great tour of Pakistan and if we can continue our from there we're going to be real tough to beat.

McGrath has opted to spend the final weekend before the Test series at home rather than play for his state New South Wales in a domestic cup one-day match against South Australia in Adelaide Sunday.

Sao Paulo shocked

RIO DE JANEIRO, Nov 14 (Reuters/ Internet): Three times Brazilian champions Sao Paulo bowed out of this year's competition to the bizarre chant of "shock absorbers, shock absorbers" from fans.

One of the weirdest soccer songs ever heard came in reply to comments made earlier in the week by club president Jose Augusto Bastos Neto about the reduced capacity of the club's Morumbi stadium.

Sao Paulo city authorities lowered the capacity of the upper tier from 40,000 to 13,000 until shock absorbers are placed in the structure.

Authorities say they are needed to reduce the impact caused by fans jumping and down in unison, which causes the stadium to wobble alarm-



... Indian cricketers celebrating with the Coca-Cola Trophy at Sharjah on PARTY TIME - AP/UNB photo November 13.

Tendulkar's ton No 21



SHARJAH, Nov 14 (Agencies): Powered by yet another awesome Sachin Tendulkar century. India thrashed Zimbabwe by ten wickets to lift the Coca-Cola Trophy here on

Friday. Tendulkar, owner of a record 20 one-day hundreds, slammed an unbeaten 124 off 92 balls, and Saurav Ganguly (63 not out) effortlessly chased 197 for victory. Such was their domination that the target was achieved with twenty overs to

spare. Man-of-the-match Tendulkar was in no mood for compromise especially after seeing his side go down in last of the league matches to their African opponents on Wednes-

The 25-year-old Bombay batting maestro's electrifying knock contained no less than 12 boundaries and six sixes.

His Calcutta partner not to be outdone belted the ball out of the Sharjah Cricket Stadium thrice off Grant Flower. Tendulkar reserved special

attention for paceman Henry Olonga, who dismissed him cheaply with a short rising ball during the match-winning fourwicket burst on Wednesday. Tendulkar took 12 in Olon-

ga's second over, including an amazing six over point, and 17 in his fourth which contained two boundaries and a six. Olonga was taken off after

giving away 41 in his first four overs, but there was little respite for his replacement, legspinner Paul Strang. Tendulkar hit two sixes and

a four in Strang's first over which produced more drama when a skied mishit was put down by wicketkeeper Andy Flower after he collided with Strang.

Tendulkar raced to his halfcentury off 28 balls with the score on 72 in the 11th over.

Zimbabwe, playing their first major one-day final, appeared overawed by the occasion as the pair carted their bowlers around the field. The Indian bowlers helped

their team wrest the initiative by restricting Zimbabwe to under four runs an over. Zimbabwe tumbled to 81-6 after being sent in to bat by Azharuddin before Strang hit a defiant 46 to lend respectability to the score.

Strang added 58 for the eighth-wicket with Eddo Brandes, the highest partnership of the innings, before being dismissed in the final over.

Javagal Srinath was the wrecker-in-chief with 3-40, but it was legspinner Anil Kumble's steady 2-29 from 10 overs that set Zimbabwe back

Young seamer Ajit Agarkar began the destruction with his first delivery when Zimbabwe skipper Alistair Campbell drove an easy catch to Ganguly in the covers. Agarkar also had a hand in

the second wicket, taking a fine catch at long-leg to remove Grant Flower off his new-ball partner Srinath. Srinath then trapped Mur-

ray Goodwin leg before to make

it 44-3 in the 11th over. Neil Johnson and Andy Flower carried the score to 77-3 when Zimbabwe were stunned by the loss of three wickets in the space of four runs.

Johnson, who made a fluent 34, was deceived in the air by off-spinner Nikhil Chopra and offered an easy return catch. Kumble broke Zimbabwe's back by removing Andy and

balls in his fifth over to make it 81-6 by the 20th. Andy was bowled round his legs for 19 and Streak was trapped on the pads by a deadly top-spinner. New Zealand umpire Steve Dunne had no hesi-

Heath Streak off successive

tation in declaring him leg be-Strang denied Kumble a hattrick, but lost Craig Wishart at 116 when he swept left-arm spinner Sunil Joshi into the safe hands of Tendulkar at

short fine leg. Brandes made 33 to help Strang set India a victory target of four runs an over.

"First, we did not have enough on the board and then came Sachin to wreck our hopes," the Zimbabwe said. "There is little a team can do when he is in such flow. We just

could not contain him. "But I was disappointed we did not get a bigger score because this wicket was worth 250 runs," Campbell added.

Azharuddin complemented Tendulkar's effort, but stressed the victory was set up by the

bowlers. "It was fantastic to keep them down to below 200," he said. "We bowled and fielded exceptionally well, something we have not always done in the

"There is little one can say about Sachin except that he takes my breath away every time he goes to the crease. It's an hour to have the world's best batsman in your team," the Indian captain said.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of Coca-Cola Trophy final between India and Zimbabwe on Friday: ZIMBABWE

A Campbell c Ganguly b Agarkar G Flower c Agarkar b Snnath N Johnson c and b Chopra M Goodwin Ibw b Srinath A Flower b Kumble C Wishart c Tendulkar b Joshi H Streak lbw b Kumble P Strang Ibw b Srinath E Brandes b Tendulkar A Whittall not out H Olonga not out Extras: (lb-7, w-4, nb-3) Total: (for nine wickets) Fall of wkts: 1-8; 2-36; 3-44;

4-77; 5-81; 6-81; 7-116; 8-174; 9-Bowlers 40 Srinath Agarkar Kumble 29 Chopra 32 36 Joshi 0 15 Tendulkar INDIA S Ganguly not out

S Tendulkar not out Extras: (lb-2; w-6; nb-2) Total: (for no loss in 30 overs) Did not bat: M Azharuddin. A Jadeja, R Singh, N Mongia, A Agarkar, N Chopra, A Kumble,

S Joshi, J Srinath M Bowlers Brandes 50 Olonga Johnson 18 45 0 Strang 17 Streak 28 Whittall 28 G Flower

Result: India won by 10 wickets. Player-of-the-final: Sachin Tendulkar.

Player-of-the-series: Sachin Tendulkar.

Goran, Yevgeny in final

MOSCOW, Nov 14 (Reuters/ Internet): Russia's Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia set up a Kremlin Cup final

rematch by handily winning their semifinals on Saturday. Second seed Kafelnikov was leading Marc Rosset 6-1, 2-0

when the Swiss pulled out with a groin injury while third seed Ivanisevic swept Frenchman Arnaud Clement aside 7-5, 6-2. Rosset, the sixth seed, said he first felt the pain during

morning practice. "Yesterday was no problem, nothing bothered me, but this morning I felt something was wrong," he said. "I was hoping it would go away during warm-up. Unfortunately, it was just the

Kafelnikov, urged on by a

near sellout home crowd, had no trouble breaking the injured Rosset twice in the first set and in the opening game of the second, before the Swiss felt it was

enough. "I don't like to be on the court just to make up the numbers. that is why I pulled out," said Rosset. "It's very sad to finish the tournament like that, but sometimes if you get injured there is nothing you can do about it."

Ivanisevic had a relatively easy time disposing of the 20year-old Frenchman in just over one hour despite playing with a broken shoe.

"I'm not happy with myself," said the Croat. "I didn't play that well, I pushed the ball too much and I was waiting for him to make a mistake instead of being aggressive."

The third seed said he broke



Greek Pyros Dimas lifts 178 kilograms to set a new world record in the men's 85kg category snatch event at the World Weightlifting Championships in Lahti, Finland on November 13. - AFP photo

one shoe during the match and didn't have a spare. "I was down to just one pair

of shoes and asked my manager to get me some extra, but they didn't arrive yet," he said. " don't know what I'm going to do. but in any case. I must play a lot better if I want to win tomor-

Ivanisevic leads the unpredictable Russian 9-2 in their 11 previous matches including a three-set win in the Moscow final two years ago.

"I have a good record against him. I beat him here and I beat him again in New Haven this year in two sets, but with Yevgeny you never know what he is going to do," he said.

Identical ban slapped on Ince

GENEVA. Nov 14 (Reuters/ Internet): England midfielder Paul Ince was handed another three-match ban by UEFA on Friday for his sending-off in Liverpool's UEFA Cup second round victory over Valencia.

Last month Ince was banned for three international matches by UEFA after being sent off playing for England against Sweden in an Euro 2000 quali-

This latest suspension, for violent conduct towards an opponent, rules him out of Liverpool's UEFA Cup campaign at least until March. UEFA handed two-match

bans to Liverpool teammate Steve McManaman and Valencia's Amedeo Carboni. The pair was also sent off during the November 3 match. European soccer's governing body rejected a protest lodged by

PSV Eindhoven in which the

club asked to replay their

November 4 Champions' League match against Kaiserslautern. The Dutch side complained to UEFA about the controversial sending-off of goalkeeper Patrick Lodewijks by referee David Elleray for a challenge on striker Uwe Roesler.

Wicketless Warne

PERTH, Nov 14: Australia's star legspinner Shane Warne took a hammering and no wickets in his first-class comeback with Victoria here today,

reports AFP. In his first senior appearance for more than six months Friday ordered a host of prominent cricketers to declare their after major shoulder surgery, a financial assets, reports AFP. Sheffield Shield match, Warne sent down 10 overs for 46 runs sued to all the current team without troubling the Western members and to all those who Australian batsmen. appeared before the commis-

In his fifth over, Warne was smacked for six by Australian one-day wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist, who lofted the ball straight back over the bowler's Warne, 29, has said he will

Tests against England, the Ashes series start in Brisbane next Friday. But he believes he may have a hope of returning for the third Test in Adelaide from December

probably miss the first two

11 or the fourth match in Melbourne from December 26. Warne, statistically the greatest spin bowler in history. has taken 313 Test wickets at

an average of 24.77 in 67 Tests. Western Australia's 23-yearold left-hander Simon Katich hammered an unbeaten 120m his third century in as many first-class games this season as his side recovered from a traumatic 33-4 to reach 319 for nine declared in their first in-

Victoria, the Sheffield Shield leaders, in reply were on 27-1 at the close, having lost left-handed opener Matthew Elliott for six.

M'gladbach earn a point

BERLIN, Nov 14: Rainer Bonhoff, the club's only link to the famous teams of the seventies, led bottom-of-the-table Borussia Moenchengladbach to a Bundesliga draw in his debut as coach, reports AP.
Visiting Moenchengladbach

played Hansa Rostock 1-1. snapping a six-match losing streak that had plummeted the two-time UEFA Cup holders into their deepest crisis in 35 Bundesliga years.

"We can use the point, but to get out of the cellar is the important thing," said Bonhoff. who played on Germany's 1974 World Cup champions. But the draw was a step up

for Moenchengladbach, who won five Bundesliga titles in the seventies, following 7-1 and 8-2 blowouts in their last two matches that led to the firing of the team's coach and manager. Karlheinz Pflipsen, setup on a counter by Austrian team-

mate Toni Polster, put Moenchengladbach ahead 1-0 in the 35th minute. Poland's Slavomir Majak equalised 16 minutes later for Rostock, also struggling through six outings without a win. Another German coach, Otto

Rehhagel, also enjoyed a successful homecoming as FC Kaiserslautern edged his former Club. Werder Bremen 1-0. Kaiserslautern, climbing

into second, beat Werder Bremen 1-0 behind Egyptian defender Hany Ramzy's 75thminute header.

Rehhagel won for the first time in Bremen since resigning there in 1995 after coaching the club 16 years and winning a UEFA Cup.

World v'ball results

TOKYO, Nov 14: Defending champions Italy and Olympic title holders the Netherlands coasted to easy second victories to secure places in the second round of the men's World Volleyball Championships today, reports AFP.

Italy, who are seeking a record third straight world title, trounced Thailand 15-0, 15-2. 15-3, in just over one hour in Group B in Kobe. They are guaranteed of a place in the top two.

The Dutch, whose first major title came at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, quashed the challenge from Ukraine for a 15-8, 15-10, 15-7 win in Group C in Sendai. Dutch coach Toon Gerbrands

was pleased with his side's improvement after a against the Czech Republic on Friday. "The improvement will go on day by day. Everyone carried on playing well. We now have

gained more confidence for the next stage," Gerbrands added after the 87-minute match. The top two teams and four best runners-up from the six groups will go into the second round.

Also through after second wins were world bronze medalists the United States. Barcelona Olympic champion Brazil, China, Cuba, Argentina, Yugoslavia, Spain and Russia. The Americans beat Canada

6-15, 15-9, 16-14, 15-13 and now play Italy on Sunday. China play the Netherlands after beating the Czech Republic 15-9, 15-9, 15-10. In Group D in Sapporo, Cuba overpowered Iran 15-2, 15-5,

aside Poland 14-16, 15-5, 15-7, 15-8. Brazil outgunned Algeria 15-2, 15-8, 15-6 in Group E in Kawasaki. Yugoslavia, who created a sensation by winning the bronze medal at the Atlanta Olympics, hammered Turkey

15-7, 15-3, 15-6, while Russia

breezed past Australia 15-4, 15-

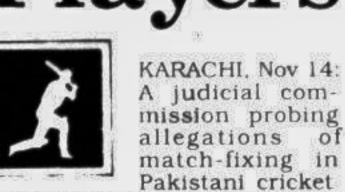
7, 15-9 in Group F in Uozul.

15-7, and Argentina brushed

"I've seen some of the Turkish players in the European championships. They played tough game and I'm happy that we were able to beat such a strong team," said Yugoslav coach Zoran Gajic. Yugoslavia play Russia on

Sunday. "I think tomorrow's match will be a great one, and one that deserves to be in the World Championships," said Russian coach Guennadi Chipouline.

Players awaiting notices



"The notices have been is-

sion since its first hearing on

September 8." said the Pakistan

Cricket Board's legal adviser

players have so far testified be-

fore the one-man commission

headed by Lahore High Court

Pakistan captains Wasim

Akram. Salim Malik, Ramiz

Raja, Imran Khan, Javed Mian-

dad, Saeed Anwer, Intikhab

Alam, Rashid L tif and Waqar

Younis as well as current cap-

leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed.

Among them were former

judge Malik Abdul Qayyum.

Twenty current and former

Ali Sibtain Fazli.

officials, journalists, suspected bookies and owners of alleged betting den. According to a copy of the

order obtained by AFP, the cricketers have been asked to submit verified details of their movable and immovable properties, bank accounts and other

They will also submit details of the assets of their close relatives and dependents.

"We want to wrap up this in-quiry by November 30, so the players have been ordered to submit the details within a week," Fazli said. If any player is found to have

assets more than his known

sources of income he will be summoned by the judicial commission to explain the dis-crepancy. Fazli said. Pakistan Cricket Board chief executive Khan will provide details of the payments to

all current players from the

Board in recent years. The match fixing and betting tain Aamir Sohail, batsman scam has been haunting Pak-Inzamamul Haq, pacers Ataur istani cricket for nearly four Rehman and Aaquib Javed and years, after Australians Shane Warne, Tim May and Mark The commission has also Waugh accused Salim Malik of recorded the statements of 17

offering them bribes to perform poorly during the 1994-95 tour

of Pakistan. "I think we will receive the notices through the Cricket Board on Saturday. I myself have said that a declaration of assets will clarify the matter,"

Pakistan captain Aamir Sohail said. "I have nothing to fear." Wasim Akram and Salim Malik are in England on pri-

vate visits. The Pakistan Cricket Board started a probe last January through a three-member committee which implicated Malik, Wasim and ljaz in its initial re-

port in September. The government afterwards formed the judicial commission to conduct a separate inquiry.

Imran Khan in his statement before the commission on Wednesday, said that mach-fixing did exist in Pakistani cricket but that there was no solid evidence.

The commission will hold its next sitting on November 18 to hear owners of a restaurant and another venue which are both suspected of being betting and match fixing centres.



Kaiserslautern's Egyptian defender Hany Ramzy (L) fouls Ailton of Werder Bremen during their Bundesliga encounter in Bremen on November 13. - AP/UNB photo

Gascoigne overlooked

next Euro 2000 qualifier

Friendly against Czech Republic



hard World Cup and probably Glenn Hoddle on played every game for Liverpool Friday named thand it's a good time for him to ree uncapped plahave a rest vers in his squad for next week's friendly against "He is not available for the

reports AFP. But Hoddle has ignored the campaign for the recall of Middlesbrough midfielder Paul Gascoigne, who has made a successful return to action following treatment for depression and alcohol abuse.

the Czech Republic at Wembley.

Ipswich goalkeeper Richard Wright Aston Villa midfielder Lee Hendrie and Leicester striker Emile Heskey are the new additions after impressive performances at under-21 level. Liverpool forward Robbie Fowler also earns a call-up ahead of in-form Manchester United striker Andy Cole.

Liverpool midfielder Paul Ince is left out of the squad as he is suspended for England's next competitive game against Poland in March, while Tim Flowers, Phil Neville and Ray Parlour are dropped. Tony Adams, Michael Owen and Teddy Sheringham miss

out through injury but Jamie Redknapp in included despite suffering from a knee problem. Hoddle revealed he had been impressed with Gascoigne's performances for Middlesbrough but felt it was too early to bring the troubled star back into the

England squad He said: "Paul has had two games and he started off very well. He's still short of fitness and next week has come just a bit quick for him.' "In February (against

France) he will be in much better shape to be brought back in if he has it on the pitch. Hoddle also revealed that

Ince had been rested even though he was available for the

40 On the

41 Emanation

42 Vendor

abbr.

song

50 Hoff's

49 Unrivaled

Pooh'

51 Took the

bus

DOWN

1 Wire

measure

collection

2 Literary

Simon &

Garfunkel

47 Copy:

48 1967

ACROSS

1 Sailboat

5 SALT

treaty

8 Slipper

12 Blocking

14 Pinnacle

15 Travelers'

respites

16 Got up

17 Central

18 Adulter-

ates

theoreti-

white lies

24 Smooch

28 "Encore!"

Islands

resident

chobee

for one

35 Cabinet

36 Cut the

volume

37 Sleeping

sickness

25 Tangy

29 Fox

30 Nosh

32 Get set

34 Okee-

20 Juror,

23 Little

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

4 Dona-

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struck

6 Prohibit

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11 Former

"The - of 10 For fear

Solution time: 25 min.

Yesterday's answer

a time...

13 Mephisto-

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forte

19 Touch

20 Recede

DEPART

charisma

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3 Pigs' digs 21 Witticism

22 Erstwhile

23 Really

hot

25 Setting

26 "Swell!"

27 Snatch

29 "Planet of

the -"

31 Caroline's

uncle

property

Theses'

33 One's

34 "Ninety-

Five

man

36 Greatly

37 Comet

feature

38 Wrestling

39 Hibernia

43 Schedule

enous

exile site

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44 Nitrog-

45 Cain's

46 Place-

setting

member

PAUL GASCOIGNE

against Poland but that doesn't mean he might not be brought in for the friendly against France.

The England coach views next Wednesday's match as the ideal chance to experiment with some new players away from the pressure of qualifying for the European championships in 2000.

He added: "I have been very impressed with Richard over the last two seasons and he is man (Arsenal), Nigel Martyn (Leeds United). Richard Wright (Ipswich). DEFENDERS: Martin Keown (Arsenal), Andy Hinchcliffe (Sheffield Wednesday), Graeme

time for him to come in as he's

GOALKEEPRES: David Sea-

in a confident mood.'

Le Saux (Chelsea), Gary Neville (Manchester United). Rio Ferdinand (West Ham United). MIDFIELDERS: Nicky Butt (Manchester United), Lee Hendrie (Aston Villa), David Batty

(Newcastle United), Darren An-

derton (Tottenham), David

Beckham (Manchester United), Paul Merson (Aston Villa), Jamie Redknapp (Liverpool), Paul Scholes (Manchester United) STRIKERS: Alan Shearer (Newcastle United), Ian Wright (West Ham United), Robbie

Fowler (Liverpool), Dion Dublin

(Aston Villa), Emile Heskey

Wisla not happy

(Leicester City).

WARSAW, Nov 14 (AFP/ Internet): Polish club Wisla Krakow was banned from European competition on Friday following a knife-throwing incident which ended with Parma's Dino Baggio needing five

stitches in a head wound. European football's governing body UEFA said it would exclude Krakow next time it qualified for any of the European competitions.

The ban would last for a single season but would remain in place for the next five years.

Meanwhile, Wisla Krakow. who sent a letter of apology to Parma and had put up a 1.450dollar reward for information leading to an arrest, said it would fight the ban, calling it unfair and too harsh.

NOYF DARO DPTOG MXG LOFFOGK Saturday's Cryptoquip: HEARD ABOUT THE GLUTTONOUS BARBARIAN, SUITABLY DUBBED ATTILA THE HUNGRY?

Today's Cryptoquip clue: R equals K

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.